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MONTEREY NEWS

December, 1979

O U R T O W N

New Police Officer

Daniel Whitbeck of Blue Hill Road was appointed a member of the Monterey Police Force in November of this year. He will begin taking the state's required law enforcement course in January.

Special Town Meeting in January

A special town meeting is being scheduled for mid or late January by the Board of Selectmen. There will be a report from the newly appointed Salary Commission whose existence was mandated during the regular Town Meeting last spring. The Commission will review all salaries paid by the Town with special attention to the discrepancy between salaries for the town Highway Crew and the salary of the Highway Superintendent. The problem lies in overtime payment, compensatory overtime. Other issues include more money for the Highway Department, and old bill on the old fire truck, more money for the Parks Department, and so on. A complete warrant will be printed in the January Monterey News.

Monterey Energy Project Report

by Mickey Friedman

The Monterey Energy Project is alive and well as we enter the winter. The initial response has been very favorable: each day more forms arrive at P.O. Box 146, and even as I write and you read, committee members are out visiting their neighbors and collecting energy information. We've discovered one slight problem with the questionnaire. The important questions about energy use do not appear until the bottom of the form, and we haven't made it clear to people that we're looking for approximate costs for all electric use, as well as for the oil, gas and wood they use in a year. All in all we are very excited by the support we've recieved. If you've been delaying filling out your form, please take a little time out in the next few days and send it to us. If you've lost it, write us at Box 146 and we will be glad to send another out.

Pollution Monitoring

In October, letters were sent by the Board of Selectmen to three agencies involved with public protection against enviromental contaminants. A letter to the Department of Public Health in Washington D.C. restated a previous request that monitoring devices for radioactive emissions be installed in Monterey. The reply from this agency was, once again, a statement to the effect that its direct monitoring of the Yankee Atomic nuclear power plant in Rowe, Massachusetts made it unncecessary to monitor further at any distance from the plant. However, officials from the agency have agreed to come to Monterey to one of the January Selectmen's Meetings and discuss the issue. Monterey has asked to recieve mailings of reports on bi-monthly inspections made at the Rowe reactor and on the results of sampling the radiological enviorment by the use of TLD's.

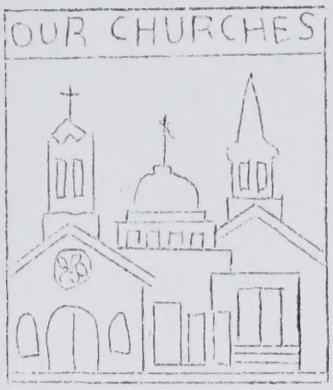
A second letter to the Pioneer Valley Air Polution control District asked for information about that agency's work on monitoring pollutants in the Connecticut and Deerfield rivers. There has been no response to this correspondence.

The third letter, written to the Civil Defense Agency and Office of Emergency Preparedness, requested a copy of any interim evacuation plans it might have for Monterey in the event of a nuclear accident at the Rowe reactor. There has been no response to this.

Meanwhile, the Monterey Fire Department spent the day Saturday, December 1 taking a course on the Technicalities of Radiological Monitoring and Emergency Procedures in the even of a Nuclear Disaster. The course, offered by the State Civil Defense Dept., gives information on how to read geiger counter, how to determine what are dangerous levels of radiation, and how to give emergency aid to people affected by radioactive substances.

It has come to the awareness of the Town that Radioactive materials have on several occassions been transported through Monterey, and the members of the Fire Department felt they should be prepared for any accidents that might happen to a vehicle with a radioactive load within the boundaries of the town.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES



The Monterey Chapel is now closed for the winter. Mass at Immaculate Conception in Mill River; 10:00 a.m. Sundays. Mass at Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. Sunday.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. . . . . .

Christmas Related Events

***Christmas Caroling , Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m. Community people are invited to gather and bring the joy of Christmas to sick, shut-in and aged people in Monterey. Those "young of heart" of all ages are invited to partivipate in this carol singing event. The evening will climax by ending at Gould Farm, singing to those there and joining with them in having cocoa and cookies.

*** Christmas Sunday Worship, Sunday, December 23, 10:30 a.m.
On this Sunday before Christmas the worship will be built around the birth stories in the gospels. The sermon will be "He Dwelt Among Us." Many of the elements of the season are combined to help carry the message of great hope that comes to us in the Christmas message; The great scriptures from the prophets through the gospels, the rich celebratimn through the many voices of music, the enchantment of light as a symbol of the Light of the World. All in the community have a most cordial invitation to share in this celebration.

*** Christmas Eve at Gould Farm - Tuesday, December 24, 7:30 p.m.
The service begins with the community gathered in the living room of main house to rejoice in the Christmas message through word and song. The concluding event is a gathereing in the barn to witness a reverent, living nativity scene. All in the Monterey Community have a most Cordial invitation to join in this Christmas Eve worship.

GOULD FARM NEWS

In early November, Mark Bucher joined the staff as a work leader. He is a member of the Mt. Wilson Church of the Brethern in Lebanon Co., Penn. and has come here for approximately a year as a Brethren Service Volunteer. Mark has always been a dairy farmer and chose Gould Farm because he likes its rural setting and its life style.

As reported last month, Farrington House is filled to capacity, having twenty residents and three full time staff workers. There is now a waiting list. Kent Smith wrote in his annual report, "in order to continue the momentum of our program from the Farm to Farrington often by way of working at the Roadside Store, we should soon consider expanding our capacity in the Boston area through cooperative apartments and/or another residence somewhat like Farrington House, although with smaller dimensions and immediately accessible to public transportation."

Thanksgiving at the Farm has always been celebrated with zest. Agnes Gould used to tell about their first one here, shortly after arriving from Winsted, in the fall of 1913. The dinner consisted of turnips and a few other vegetables, but they managed to have a good time, bolstered by a strong sense of purpose and an appetite for the new venture. This year we ate heartily of traditional holiday food, with gratitude to hard working guests and staff, to the farm's founders and the spirit of hope and faith and courage with which they endowed this place.

On December 10, there was a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Present were the Rev. Paul Kennedy, President of the Board of Directors. David Colt, Matt Dempsey, Rose McKee, Bill Pearl, Robert Wheeler and ex-officio, Kent Smith and Ed Dunlop. Consideration was given to problems of administration for the next six months.

Rose McKee

MONTEREY GRANGE # 291

Competition Night November 28 - Alice Schaffer side nosed out Richard Hardesty in the main event. Her team was registering to vote in Monterey, while Hardesty's was Stranded at Grandma's after Thanksgiving. The judges were Norman Hart, Betty Wilbur, and Elta Shively. Margaret White won an Afghan knitted by Amy and Herbert Enoe which brought in $117.50. Alice Burnhams donated two lap robes for the Veteran Hospital. Eleanor Kimberly won first prize on her slides at the National Grange at Lancaster, Pa. December 5, Ray Ward gave a slide presentation from his recent trip to India. Malcombe Somes, a member of the State Conservation Commission was present to outline the project and contest for upcoming year. The Christmas party for this year was canceled due to illnesses. The next meeting will be January 16. There will be an open house planned in the spring similar to the [illegible] to which [illegible] Grange members will be invited

Hanukkah and Christmas - Peace With Justice

The Jewish and Christian festivals of Hanukkah and Christmas nearly coincide with each other. Both are rooted in history. They celebrate quite different events, yet the historical juxtaposition and inter-mingled celebration of the two has begun to cause caring people to seek elements that speak to us in common. I should like to lift up the ancient - and yet current - human cry for "peace with justice".

Both festivals celebrate God's deliverance in difficult and desperate human situations. Oppression and injustice are old and wearisome themes in human societies. Someone is always imagining that the way ahead is to put someone else down. The monotonous ills which flow from such thinking are too dreary to recite. Over and over we have played the sad and broken record of exploitation, oppression, rebellion, conflict, and the multiplication of offenses.

We are such dull learners. We are slow to profit from our sad histories. We cannot seem to get it through our heads that if we gain an advantage at the expense of someone else the advantage is short-lived. How soon that peace is broken which is not accompanied by justice. The see-saw of history is written by those who imagined they could maintain some kind of peace without justice. By some strange irony (the name for it may be God) the strong, who forget considerations of justice, at the next turn of the wheel find their own internal decay is undermining their former strength. And so the wheel of history rolls on.

Somehow our co-joined Jewish and Christian celebrations of Hanukkah and Christmas are speaking to me with new force this year about a new commitment to peace with justice. Naturally, I can feel more clearly the insistent claim for this within the tradition I know best. As I have been re-reading and re-pondering the scriptures of Advent leading up to Christmas I have been feeling as repeated hammer strokes the claim of a new age - it is to be an age of peace, yet there is no peace and there never can be without justice.

Told in its simplest form the story of a child born to humble Jewish parents that brought forth special rejoicing in both heaven and earth is the story of an event that finally calls for the creation of a new humanity. This fresh intervention of the divine in human history is a strong declaration that there is to be "peace on the earth". But our old patterns of thinking keep blinding us to the fact this peace is to come from "good will among men." Can we be too blind to see that there never can and never will be either <u>peace</u> or <u>goodwill</u> until there is a reign of justice. Any talk about an enduring peace or goodwill that is not undergirded with a solid foundation of justice is the veriest sort of nonsense. If you are strong and expect me to be at peace with you while you use your strength for advantage over me, I will suppose your are out of your head. If in any way I use my strength to maintain an advantage over you, you may properly judge me to be out of my head. At least you can clearly see that I am not a part of the "new humanity." Rather, I am a part of that dreary old story that has been repeated so many times over it is enough to make us cry with its monotonous lack of vision and imagination.

Isn't it true that in both the Hanukkah and Christmas stories we are asked to take a fresh look at our view of what it is to be human? If we learn to see ourselves in a new and fresh way to our amazement we begin to act in a new and fresh way.

It strikes me that this is an excellent season for all of us to re-examine the stories by which we live. Hanukkah is set in the context of oppression yet it identifies God as positioning himself with the oppressed. He stands with oppressed, not merely to turn the tables, but to create a new human climate. Christmas is set in the context of the darkness that humans experience, yet it comes asking us to see, to believe in and live by the light.

The primary darknesses in our world today center around the human scene. The darknesses are greatest particularly in the places where the peace is broken by violations of justice. It is hard to say whether we are in a period of greater injustices, or whether we have much more instant knowledge of injustice than we had in earlier times. In any instance our eyes - and our hearts - are being asked to see the tragic story of injustice that is so hurtfully wounding the human family. The stories we live by, particularly at this season of Hanukkah and Christmas, are an opportunity to renew our faith and our commitments. The whole of humanity is on a long pilgrimage. The God who called us into being is also calling us to acknowledge that the human family is one. This is a good time to renew our commitment to justice. Even as we want justice for ourselves, so let us seek it for all.

Virgil V. Brallier, Minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

December Community Dinner a Rousing Success

It was standing room only at the Community Dinner Wednesday, December 5. The food, as always, was wonderful, and the program was exceptionally good and diverse. Milly Walsh gave a report on the Monterey Energy Project. Joe Baker and Bonner McAllester follow with music and songs accompanied by guitar and hammered dulcimer. They received ovations for their offerings. Their final song, written by Woody Guthrie about the Grand Coulee Dam, was dedicated to the Konkapot with its promise of local hydroelectric - power. Everybody joined in the chorus, "Roll On Columbia, Roll On". As icing on the cake, Olivia and Alexander Dreier provided a puppet show about true love among mythical princesses and white wolves in Russia.

The Duck

Monterey accepted a bid from Berkshire Enviromental Lab, Inc., for $152.00 for its little used, and, no doubt, little known amphibious vehicle, affectionately known during the years it has existed in town as "The Duck." It was part of the town's civil defense equipment, and was used primarily, if not exclusively, in town parades.

Slide Presentation on New Age Communities

On November 18 an evening of slides and commentary was presented by Gordon Davidson and Corinne McLaughlin, members of the Findhorn Community in the northeast of Scotland. About one hundred area residents and a few visitors from out of town attended the presentation which was on thirty new age communities and groups in America. Davidson and McLaughlin, who recently completed a year long tour of the U.S. giving Findhorn workshops and visiting fifty communities, have now founded a new community near Amherst, Mass, called Sirius. The focus of the newly formed community is to express collective energy through cooperative living. One of the many programs with in the structures of Sirius entails teaching the value of gaining awareness not only the personal self but also the universe in which we live. All attending enjoyed the presentation and the social hour afterward. The evening was sponsored by the Monterey Festival of the Earth Committee.

Another exciting evening with the Sirius directors on February 1 will be entitled The Spiritual Destiny of America. More details about the evening will appear in the next issue of The Monterey News.

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GETTING MORE PERSONAL

For some time we have wished that the Monterey News might be able to help us all keep up better on what is happening related to Monterey. Amon the persons. It is one of the hardest news functions to perform well. Omissions are often hurtful. If it cannot be done well it often seems better not to do it at all.

Nevertheless, the desire that the Monterey News help us keep up in the world of persons persists. Indeed, it refuses to die. In the reply cards in our annual contribution appeal the single most persistant request was for more news regarding what is happening to persons.

So -- we are going to make the plunge. fear of not doing this well has held us back. But now we believe the time to try is here. We will make mistakes but we will keep trying to improove.

Her is how we want to try doing it. We are requesting that each person and family be responsible for sendding items to include. What to send? Anything personal: Births, deaths, baptisims, bar mitzahs, promotions, moves, weddings, and the many other transitions through which people pass.

We have had especial requests that summer people could know what is happening to their friends who are situated in many different places. Please, let no one be shy about <u>your</u> news. People do want to know about you.

Let us begin by presenting a recent celebration:

Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Brown, of Blue Hill Road, celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary at a surprise party at Hillsdale Restaurant. Twenty nine family members attended. Mr. Brown's mother Mrs. F.W. Brown and his aunts Mrs. Gordon Burhans, Mrs. Charlotte Franz and Mrs. Helen Schroeder arranged the party.

<u>DEATH</u> Edward McLaughlin (84) whose funeral was held on December 8. His wife died several years earlier. He left two daughters, one of whom is in the area, Mrs. Harold Finkle.

David Raney's sculpture will be included in a group show at the Honey Sharp Gallery in Lenox November 24 through January 1.

The Staffof the Monterey News wishes to take this opportunity to thank not only the many generous readers who are listed below but also all the many other contributors who send money to us all through the year. Your enthusiasm and your magnanimity keep us going. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

Miriam Schreiber, M/M Hans Kessler, David & Cay Raycroft, Evelyn & Sam Semaya, David Brallier, M.D., Mrs. Charles Peet, Mrs. Lawrence Wilkinson, M/M Charles Wocel, Marion Clark, Mrs. John Fijux, Mrs. Jean A. Dunning , Faith B. Colt, M/M Hadley Simons, M/M Joseph Schegel, John silard, Janet McKee, M/M Morris Kirschener, Sylvia Kleban, M/M Alfred p Materas, Sr., J. Randor, M/M Roy Kahn, Cathy Roth, Alice Burhans, Florence Brown, William Baum, Eugene Carroll, Dr. David and Jean Balderston, Katharine Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. Sol Melnick, M/M Frank Rotondo, M/M Alfred Sellers, Mrs. Irene Kenny, Helen Hanley, M/M Stanley Brallier, Anita Phillips, M/M John Perry Miller, M/M Hugh Chapman, Robert Rausch, M/M H. Allan, Celia B. Gottlieb, M/M John Ryder, Rosemary Farrar, Steven and Peggy Small, Charles and Dorothy Nathan, Kathleen Cullen, Mary Fitzgerald, M/M C. Robert Schlichter, Morris and Gayle Rochfeld, Mary Elizabeth Skelton, M/M Jack Tytell, Lewis Stark, M/M H. Rydberg, M/M Nicholas Wood, Gordon and Jane Bowles, Christine Sadlowski, M/M Donald Amstead Jr., Peter and Joan Brown, Rev and Mrs W. Ward, M/M William Ginsberg, Beatrice B Phillips, Mrs. Solomon A. Berson, Dr. and Mrs Melvin Fuerst, M/M Rudolph H. Erda, M/M Eugene O'Connell, M/M Meyer Tobias, M/M Sam Shulsky, Lennie and Cynthia Weber, M/M Gerald Curtis, M/M Arthur Colodny, Lewis Scheffey, Frank D. Amato, Archdeacon and Mrs. Arthur J. Monk, Judith Oplinger, Mrs. Madeline Coleman, Mrs. C. Kinne, Mildred Walsh, M/M Erwin Clark, Ruth H. Smith, L Buonaguro, A Swanson, Bob and Peggy Thieriot, L.H. Raney, M/M Louis Potter, Dr. Herbert Sandick, Maureen and Michael Banner, Helen B. Shaw, Bildegard Wolff, M/M Joseph Levin, Charles and Eileen O'Connor, Eleanor R. Dunn, Richard J. Roth, Dr. and Mrs David Burns, M/M Alfred W. Molle, Bruce Graham, Joan W. Reed, M/M George E. Brett, Steven and Hale Schatz, M/M Stanley Dietter, M/M H.B. Pearl, M/M John K Pedersen, Ann White Slaughter, in memory of Mrs. Rhea E. Morgan by M/M William E. Morgan, M/M David Hellman, Mrs. Richard W. Smith, Mrs. Ann Thurston, M/M Howard Schomer, Dr and Mrs. Edward S. Brown, M/M Richard Lankenau, Mrs. Matthew Galligan, Dr. and Mrs. Karl S Quisenberry, E.W. Morton, Joe Baker and Bonner McAllester, Marjorie Fuller, M/M George McVey, Jon and Myra Harris, M/M Ray Butler, Rev and Mrs. James Chase, Fred Whipple, Ruth Milsner, M/M Phillip Lombardo, Alexander and Olivia Drier, Bob Prater, Ruth Bernstein, M/M Joseph Wondrasch, M/M Daniel P. Parker, Oliver A. Rosegart, Eine and Bill Koivisto, M/M Robert H. Porter, M/M Peter A. Anderson, M/M Frank W. Thobe, Dr. Joel Curtis, Dr and Mrs. W.B. Oislander, M/M Stewart Hegleman, Mrs. Mary K. Marchman, Melvin D. Kraft, M/M Everett C. Probeck, Stephan E. Blosser, Samuel and Doris Friedman, M/M Fred Rosebrock, M/M A.K. Wing Jr., Steve and Joyce Morse, David and Barbara Lowman.

An important event of the Christmas season was omitted in the typing so it is given in this space:

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 23, 7:30 pm. In the Monterey Church for the whole community -- a reverent celebration of the Christmas season through a reading of the prophets and the gospels pointing toward the unfolding story of the Christ-child who came "in the fullness of time." The great carols of the season sung by the people and by special groups. Finally the candlelight service in which each person receives a candle which is lighted, representing each person sharing in the light of Christ's coming. All have a warm invitation to share this event.

God Bless Thy Year

God bless thy year!
Thy coming in,
thy going out,
Thy rest,
thy traveling about,
The rough, the smooth,
the bright, the drear,
God bless thy year!

...Old English Blessing

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

* *

I need two non-smokers to share a three bed-room house.Conveniently located to the center of Monterey, beautiful setting with large yard and lots of wonderful woods nearby. January to May... share rent of 250+ utilities.

C A L L

Rose Anne Marie

528-4885

* *

S T A F F

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Assistant Editor: Ellen Pearson

Managing Editor: Virgil Brallier

Youth Editor: Kevin Bradley

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Circulation Manager: Debbie Reed

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